

large number examined show some intergradation. Intergrading forms have been observed growing together at Lexington, Ky.

The principal distinguishing characters of the three forms are pointed out in the following descriptions:

Lactuca virosa has oblong-obovate obtuse leaves, rather thin and weak in texture and inclined to be bullate. So far as can be determined in pressed specimens they are horizontal. The achenes are black or very dark, with a comparatively short stout beak.

The leaves of *L. scariola* are runcinate, or pinnately lobed, firm in texture and with or without spines on the back of the midrib. They are turned in a vertical plane. The flowers are smaller than those of *L. virosa* and the achenes, also smaller and more slender, are light brownish-gray, usually mottled and with long slender beaks.

The leaves of *L. scariola integrata* have nearly parallel margins, with usually a broadly deltoid acute apex, and a firm texture. They are turned in a vertical plane and the midrib is either with or without spines. The flowers and achenes do not appear to differ from those of the species.

The flowers of both the species and the variety are yellow, but in the dried herbarium specimen they change to blue.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

LEDUM PALUSTRE, var. DILATATUM ON MT. KATAHDIN.—While examining with Professor E. B. Delabarre some Labrador material of *Ledum palustre*, L., and its var. *dilatatum*, Wahl., I was surprised to find in the Gray Herbarium a beautifully fruited specimen of the characteristic var. *dilatatum* collected by the late George Thurber on the summit of Mt. Katahdin, Maine, in August, 1847. The Thurber sheet is labeled "woods & summit of Katahdin, Me.", and contains two branches; one, a loosely forking branch of typical fruiting *L. groenlandicum*, apparently from "woods," the other, a dwarfed and small-leaved branch of heavily fruited *L. palustre*, var. *dilatatum*, obviously from the "summit."

Ledum palustre of Arctic regions presents two strongly marked variations, the true *L. palustre* with narrowly linear rigid leaves 1 to 3 cm. long, and the var. *dilatatum* with leaves linear-oblong as in *L. groenlandicum*. From the latter species of Greenland and boreal America, which commonly has 5 to 7 stamens and narrowly oblong or

cylindric capsules, both *L. palustre* and its variety differ in having more stamens, commonly 7 to 11, and ellipsoid-ovoid shorter capsules. *L. palustre*, var. *dilatatum*, extends south to Newfoundland, has recently been found by Mr. F. F. Forbes in Matane County, Quebec, and is probably the form reported by some authors from the Great Lakes. Its presence on Mt. Katahdin indicates that careful search may show it on other New England mountains.—M. L. FERNALD.

FURTHER NOTES ON *ARABIS LAEVIGATA* AND *ASPLENIUM TRICHOMANES* IN MAINE. — May I venture to correct Mr. C. H. Knowlton's statement, RHODORA 6, 208, that *Arabis laevigata*, Poir., had previously been reported only from North Berwick? The plant has never, in my knowledge, been collected in North Berwick. In South Berwick, I have found it at two stations: in company with Mr. M. L. Fernald, on 13 June, 1895, I found a considerable quantity of it along the cliff forming the western side of "The Gulf," and have since collected it there several times; I have also collected it on the ledges around the Parker granite quarry. Both stations are in the "Tacnic," or "Tatnic," region in the northeastern part of the town. Geographically, the difference in location is slight; but it may be of service to some other collector to know the exact locality, as the only place in North Berwick where one would think of looking for plants of similar habitat is Bauneg Beg Hill, some eight miles away in the extreme northern section of the town.

Asplenium Trichomanes, L., noted by Mr. Knowlton from Livermore, also grows on dry shaded ledges near Rumford Falls (*W. H. Allen & J. C. Parlin*).—J. C. PARLIN, Brownville, Me.

ON TRANSLOCATION OF CHARACTERS IN PLANTS.

R. G. LEAVITT.

SEVERAL monstrous forms exhibited by native plants have been shown me lately by members of the New England Botanical Club. A consideration of the possible meaning of the anomalies has led to certain suggestions, which, if correct, are widely applicable. The